



MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Violet Varona-Lukens, Executive Officer-
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
Los Angeles, California 90012

Director of Planning

At its meeting held March 23, 2004, the Board took the following action:

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At the time and place regularly set, notice having been duly given, the following item was called up:

Hearing on proposed amendments to Title 22 - Planning and Zoning, limiting the establishment or expansion of outdoor advertising signs to M (Industrial) zones and requiring a Conditional Use Permit prior to the erection of such signs in order to minimize the negative aesthetic impacts on neighborhoods and safety hazards for pedestrians and motorists that the proliferation of outdoor advertising signs has in the unincorporated areas of the County (All Districts); also approval of Negative Declaration (ND) and determination that the project will not have a significant effect on the environment or adverse effect on wildlife resources, and that the ND reflects the independent judgment and analysis of the Board, as further described in the attached letter dated March 23, 2004 from the Director of Planning.

Michael Tripp, representing the Department of Regional Planning was duly sworn and testified. Opportunity was given for interested persons to address the Board. Ed Dato addressed the Board. No written correspondence was presented.

Supervisor Burke made the following statement:

"To address constituent concerns regarding the proliferation of outdoor advertising signs in the unincorporated areas of the County, the Board adopted Urgency Ordinance No. 2002-0031U and requested that the Director of Planning conduct a comprehensive study to consider additional land use controls to protect our neighborhoods from the negative impacts created by billboards.

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“On June 25, 2002, the Board extended the moratorium on the placement and expansion of outdoor advertising signs for a period of 10 and one half months with the adoption of Urgency Ordinance No. 2002-0045U. The moratorium was extended a second time on April 22, 2003 with the adoption of Urgency Ordinance No. 2003-0020U. The moratorium will expire on May 14, 2004 and cannot be extended again.

“After reviewing the study submitted by the Department of Regional Planning, it became quite clear that additional land use controls were warranted; and therefore, the Director of Planning was instructed to draft an ordinance to address this matter.



“The Regional Planning Commission held a public hearing regarding the ordinance on January 7, 2004. After the hearing, the Commission recommended a draft ordinance that placed additional land use controls on outdoor advertising signs by limiting the locations where such signs could be placed to manufacturing zones and requiring the approval of a Conditional Use Permit prior to the placement of a sign. In an effort to reduce the number of outdoor advertising signs already existing in the County, the Planning Commission asked the Department of Regional Planning to explore the possibility of creating a regulatory structure that would allow the establishment of new signs in the more intense commercial zones in exchange for the removal of a predetermined amount of existing lawfully placed signage.”

After discussion, motion of Supervisor Burke, seconded by Supervisor Antonovich, duly carried by the following vote: Ayes: Supervisors Molina, Burke, Yaroslavsky, Antonovich and Knabe; Noes: None, the Board closed the hearing and took the following actions:

1. Considered and adopted the attached Negative Declaration (ND) together with any comments received during the public review process, certified its completion, and made a finding that there is not substantial evidence that the proposed amendments will have a significant effect on the environment, and that the ND reflects the independent judgment and analysis of the Board;

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2. Approved the recommendations of the Regional Planning Commission limiting the establishment or expansion of outdoor advertising signs to M (Industrial) zones and requiring a Conditional Use Permit prior to the erection of such signs  in order to minimize the negative aesthetic impacts on the neighborhoods and safety hazards for pedestrians and motorists that the proliferation of outdoor advertising signs has in the unincorporated areas of the County;
3. Determined that the amendments are compatible with and supportive of the goals and policies of the County General Plan and the County's Strategic Plan;
4. Made a finding that the adoption of the proposed ordinance is de minimus in its effect on fish and wildlife resources and authorized the Director of Planning to complete and file a certificate of fee exemption for the project;
5. Adopted Ordinance No. 2004-0016 entitled, "An ordinance amending Title 22 - Planning and Zoning of the Los Angeles County Code to establish revised land use restrictions for outdoor advertising signs." This ordinance shall take effect April 22, 2004; and
6.  instructed the Director of Planning to conduct a comprehensive study to consider an ordinance amendment that would encourage the removal of already existing lawful outdoor advertising signs in the unincorporated areas of the County, by permitting the establishment of new signs in the more intense commercial zones (C-3, C-M) pursuant to a development agreement or other arrangement that would require the applicant to remove a particular amount of lawfully existing signage.

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Attachments

Copies distributed:

Each Supervisor
Chief Administrative Officer
County Counsel